

10 things

We celebrate the history and evolution of the written word

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the pacer

Independent voice of the University of Tennessee at Martin

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students rally for peace

Staff Reports

Last week, UTM kicked off its 11th Annual Civil Rights Conference, which featured several speakers on issues related to civil rights.

The opening ceremony was held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 19 and 3 to 5 p.m. Feb. 20, in the UC.

On Feb. 21, Native American Civil Rights Day activities were held and events included a slideshow, music and a discussion led by Native American activist Denise Pictou Maloney.

On Feb. 22, events included the Quality Education Project Workshop; the UTM Percussion Ensemble's presentation of "Roots of Rhythm;" and UTM professor Dr. Henry Parker's presentation, "How German Philosophers Created the Myth of a Superior White Race."

On Feb. 23, playwright and actor Brooke Haycock performed "Catalyst" and "Dilated Pupils and the Not-So-Soft Bigotry of a Nation."

Perry Wallace, a professor at Washington College of Law and the first African-American varsity athlete in the Southeastern Conference, presented "Integrating SEC Basketball."

Linda Bradford presented "Jim Crow Trains, Civil Rights and the Creation of the Black Middle Class." Bradford is the leader of a project researching the black railroad workers of the Fulton-South Fulton area.

See page 4 for stories on last week's conference.



Above: UTM students gather between the UC and Paul Meek Library to attend the Social Justice Peace Rally. The sounds of Jimi Hendrix and Bob Dylan sounded through the quad as students marked the 50th anniversary of UTM's desegregation. Below, left: Dr. Annie Jones, Director of Minority Affairs, speaks at the rally.

Obion County group formed for future sans Goodyear; optimistic

Trevor Smith
Co-Life Editor

With the announcement that Union City's Goodyear plant will be closed by the end of the year, people in the area have begun to wonder what will become of those whose jobs will be lost and how far and wide the effect of the closing will be felt.

Some are saying that Obion County will be unable to progress without the plant and the jobs that it provides.

Timothy Brady is not one of those people.

"I'm optimistic about life, and there's always a way to create a positive from a negative," said Brady, a local businessman from Union City who has created the Obion County Future Committee (OCFC) in the hopes of finding solutions to the economic problems that will come from Goodyear's closing.

Within days of the company's announcement, Brady had started the OCFC and created a Facebook page in order to reach out to young adults in the area.

"It's the best way to reach 20- to 40-year-olds in the most expeditious manner, and consider the success we've seen both in the last national election and current events in the Middle East. Social media can be very powerful in getting people together and providing an environment of free expression, motivation and action."

Brady said he has seen a swelling response to the group so far and that young people in the area are excited about the possibility of facilitating change together.

"I'm hoping to enlist enough of the young adults in the area so that their energy and vitality affects both younger and older adults; then we can come together to find solutions and then work together to bring those solutions to fruition," he said.

Brady also has his own ideas about how West Tennessee can use the assets it already has to combat the upcoming economic crisis.

"We have some of the most fertile soil in the world, as we are one of the highest corn producers in the country. In this soil, we could start small agribusinesses

see GROUP page 5

online POLL

"How concerned are you with the possibility of a school shooting on UTM's campus?"

vote at utmpacer.com

Ribbon-cutting ceremony marks opening of new Skyhawk fieldhouse

Newest university facility already has positive impact for UTM athletics

Sam Hinson
Pacer Writer

"It's 1, 2, 3 strikes you're out at the old ball game."

That was the song being sung at the grand opening of the new fieldhouse for the softball and baseball teams.

The weather was cold and the wind was blowing, but that didn't stop the proud supporters of the two teams and their brand new facility from showing up. Phil Dane, athletic director for UTM, started the ribbon-cutting ceremony by mentioning how much these two teams and this campus deserved this new field house and introduced a few speakers that certainly agreed with him.

UTM Chancellor Tom Rakes was also there and said a few words of encouragement. The newly build field house has come equipped with several features that are sure to benefit the two teams.

New locker rooms, concession stands, laundry rooms and plenty of storage are just a few things that these two teams will get to enjoy, not to mention the close proximity of the facility to the baseball and softball fields.

"I really like the close proximity to the field, that is going to be great, especially when there are rainy days, and I really love the new locker rooms and showers we have," said baseball team



SGA president Sammie Linton poses with Coach Bubba Cates (far left) along with Phil Dane and Tom Rakes (front, third, fourth from left) during the fieldhouse opening ceremony.

member Adam Stacy.

"We will be in here mostly every day, which will be so much nicer than what we have been used to, especially when it comes to changing, now we are right next to the field," said junior

softball team member Chelsea Jones.

Both teams seem to be very excited about the new facility and are looking forward to moving in. You don't have to be a sports fan to see how excited baseball coach Bubba Cates and softball

coach Donley Canary were about their teams' new place.

"This new facility is extremely nice, it is going to help a lot in recruiting. It has already made a difference in the new 2011 class, which has been the best class on paper, and has helped in some verbal commitments for the 2012 class," said Canary.

"These new kids love what is planned for the future, and love our new facility. We will now be able to accommodate alumni much better, in terms of receptions and the alumni game, we want the field house to be a focal point for our alumni and our fans."

It seems the players aren't the only ones that like this closeness to the fields.

"This new facility puts our operation closer to our field, which is not only important to our guys but also to our staff, all the larger schools have facilities like this one and it really does a lot to improve their programs. It really looks professional and I think that makes a difference not only to the players but to the fans and recruits, when they see that our program is doing great it helps in all the areas of the sport," said Cates.

"I am really proud to see organizations like the SGA and athletics coming together for such a great cause. Ultimately I think this will not only improve our teams but also the campus as a whole."

WEDNESDAY WEATHER

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Tomorrow, expect partly cloudy skies with a high of 65 and low of 52. Friday, partly cloudy with a high of 64.

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Viewpoints

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EDITORIAL

'Shooting question' has reason

In this week's Campus Quotes, we asked students how often they thought of the possibility of a shooting on campus at UTM.

Now, we wanted to use this opportunity to explain why we did this.

We're not seeking to perpetuate fear among students, nor do we wish to generate a cheap buzz.

Recently, the question was posed to a few of our staff members and it struck them as funny as it may strike some of you.

Among our conversations, we all thought that while the possibility is always there, UTM is nonetheless a secure campus with a proven track record of keeping its students safe.

The fact is, many current UTM students grew up in the post-Columbine era of school administration, whereas many faculty or non-traditional students (of which UTM has a large population) did not.

For many of us, it would not be uncommon to have a wand waved over us before entering the building or practicing occasional bomb threat drills in high school.

It's logical that many of us could carry fears to UTM, or be naturally concerned that such an incident might occur.

Watching 24/7 news channels and being shaken down before gym class will do that to you, too.

However, we at *The Pacer* believe that UTM has been consistently named one of the safest college towns in the nation for a reason.

Regardless, be safe and sound off on utmpacer.com to voice your opinion.

Editorial Cartoonist: Justin Hunt



General education classes should put more focus on the 'general knowledge' part

Adam Ryan Travis
Guest Columnist

In my seven and a half semesters at UTM, I can truly say that I've learned a lot.

Some of these things were purely academic, but others were more along the line of life lessons.

It saddens me to think that some of you might be leaving this fine institution of higher learning without benefit of obtaining the same knowledge.

To remedy this, I propose that UTM should offer the following classes:

1. Grammar 101 — As a TA, I read and grade nearly a hundred chemistry lab reports each week.

When a student incorrectly explains his or her experiment, it upsets me. When a student uses the wrong homophone, it sickens me.

Weren't we taught the difference between to/too and their/there/they're in second grade?

Ofentimes, there are non-native English speakers who do better differentiating these linguistic banalities!

This little rant is, of course, completely dependent upon my ability to decipher students' handwriting at all. If you all would just take the time to write more clearly, everyone would be happier.

Oh, and "cuz the book sed to" is NEVER the right answer. Please try to reacquaint yourself with the things you learned in

elementary school.

2. Tobacco, takeout, & TV — They're killing you. Slowly but surely, your lungs are filling with tar, but you know this because you took health classes in high school.

**Why don't you seem to care?!
With every greasy burger
you cram down your throat,
your waistline expands and
your cholesterol increases.**

Why don't you seem to care?! With every greasy burger you cram down your throat, your waistline expands and your cholesterol increases.

Why don't you seem to care?! As you sit in

front of the TV, your muscles atrophy, and your risk for heart disease skyrockets.

Why don't you seem to care?!

Clearly everything that society has done up to this point to make you fear an early demise has failed, so let's watch the most horrific medical procedures associated with these three life-abbreviators on tape week after week until something sticks. Sound good?

3. The news and you — I'd like to think that I'm familiar with the world around me. I try to keep up with politics and enjoy reading the paper.

On the other hand, some of my Catholic friends couldn't even tell me who the current

pope is. That's something that everyone should know!

Let's have a class where we come in for an hour and read the newspaper or watch news clips and then go home and write something short about how what we just saw is directly applicable to us: gas prices, tax hikes, etc.

4. Math without calculators — Very little upsets me more than when someone near me has a complete inability to do basic mental math.

If you're in college and you don't know your multiplication tables, drop out.

No, really. It's too late for you. If you can't figure out in your head what 15 or 20 percent of your restaurant bill is without using your handy dandy Tip Calculator App on your phone, stay in tonight, and find a used Math 080 book on Amazon.

"Campus Quotes"

How concerned are you with the possibility of a shooting on UTM's campus?

"It's a big campus. You have to be cautious."

"I think the possibility is there on any campus."

"Not really. It's a small-town school.."

"No. It's a pretty stable environment."

Pacer Graphics/Jen DeYoso



Samantha Jennings
Art major



Samantha Jarvis
Special Education major



Trey Drinkard
Pre Vet major



Doug Jackson
Engineering major

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Opinions expressed in personal columns are those of the writers and may not reflect the opinions of the staff as a whole. Editorials are written by members of the Editorial Board, with contributions from other students, campus administrators or community members on an as-issue basis.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Story ideas or news tips may be e-mailed to pacer@utm.edu or presented at our weekly staff meetings, held at 5 p.m. every Tuesday during the semester.

The Pacer welcomes comments, criticisms or ideas that its reader-

ship may have. We encourage you to send a Letter to the Editor through e-mail at pacer@utm.edu or via our Web site at <http://www.utmpacer.com/lettertotheeditor/>. Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 250 words. Letters must contain the name, major and hometown of the author, as well as contact information. Submissions may be edited for grammar, spelling and brevity.

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Viewpoints



Josh Weiss, Sports Editor and senior Public Relations major, is spending the spring semester participating in a student exchange program with London Metropolitan University.

What follows are excerpts from his blog he's created since arriving in London. *The Pacer* will feature a selection from Weiss' blog each week as he records new dispatches from across the pond. Highlights from his blog will be featured here, but students are urged to check out Weiss' raw, unabridged blog at <http://notinkansasanyomore2011.blogspot.com/>

the josh weiss
travel blog
<http://notinkansasanyomore2011.blogspot.com/>

Thursday, 1.21.2011



My first night

I still can't believe that I'm about to go to sleep for the night in London, England. It's weird having no idea what's going on around you, especially when you're staying in the house of a stranger. However, I can already tell that this family is going to be nothing but a blessing to me in the coming months.

It seems that people of all sorts are always in their home, stopping by for tea or dinner or just to say hi. We've kind of lost that in America. ... Sure, we have people over, especially those of us in college (we do a lot of just hanging out), but it's usually for a certain occasion, whether it be a refined, classy Christmas get-together or grilling out for an NFL playoff game.



Wednesday, 2.2.2011



The British Museum

Established in 1753, the British Museum, arguably the world's greatest museum, has so much to offer everyone. History buffs and casual visitors alike will marvel at the sheer quantity of artifacts from literally all corners of the globe, as the museum boasts items from all seven continents.

Not only does the British Museum have more relics than one can wrap his head around, the actual pieces themselves are unbelievable! I've heard a number of Brits already say jokingly, "It's because we just went in and stole whatever we wanted." This, while in some instances was probably not too far from the truth, is a misleading statement.

The Museum is truly awe-inspiring, almost making the Smithsonian look sub-par. The extent of the relics, as I said before, is unrivaled by anything that I have ever seen previously. Upon entry, you walk into the Great Court, a huge room larger than a football field with ceilings that must have been 60 or 70 feet high.



Tuesday, 2.22.2011



Andy McKee @ Union Chapel

As many of you may well know, I love music. I regularly attend concerts and try to stay up on the latest developments in the music world, especially when it deals with the artists that I truly enjoy. So when I saw that one of my favorite guitarists, Andy McKee, was playing a show in London during my time here, I jumped at the chance to see him in such a unique and unprecedented setting.

Union Chapel was beautiful. The high cathedral ceilings and stained glass gave the venue an ambience that I've never experienced before. It was amazing and is, by far, the best venue that I've ever seen a show at, far surpassing my previous favorites, the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville and Chicago's Wrigley Field.

The ceiling must have been at least 100 feet high, dispersing sound all around the venue in what was one of the original methods of Dolby Digital Surround Sound. A huge, flower-shaped stained glass window sat over top of the stage. No projectors, cameras or jumbo-trons here. ... The show would, without question, live up to its title of "An Evening with Andy McKee." It wasn't a concert. It was just a little jam session, an evening spent playing music for a few people, a few friends.





Pacer Photo/ University Relations

Dr. Bradford reminds UTM that railroads were very beneficial during the Civil Rights Movement.

Railroads essential to Civil Rights Movement

Troy Duncan
Editorial Assistant

The Civil Rights Movement was a time when African Americans were tested and tried just because for the color of their skin.

As it is a very important part of history, UTM hosts the Annual Civil Rights Conference where speakers from all around come and talk about its different aspects. One speaker, Dr. Linda Bradford, the project director for the African American Railroad Workers of Fulton Kentucky Oral History Project. Her speech was called Jim Crow Trains, Civil Rights and the Creation of the Black Middle Class.

The speech targeted how railroads were both harmful and beneficial to the African

American people during the Civil Rights movement. When the separate but equal doctrine was in effect, nearly everything public was separated into two categories: whites and colored.

This also applied to railways as they were also segregated as buses were. Even if the whites' car was close to empty and the blacks' car was standing room only, they could not sit in with the whites.

It carried over to the dining car as well. Being a server or cook on the railroad was a common job that was mostly filled by African Americans at the time.

Dr. Bradford said that the name of "George" was given automatically to all the black servers on the dining cart by the upper class whites they served and that it was very

demeaning to the person being called "George." According to Dr. Bradford, the cooks on a train had to get up and prepare breakfast at 4 a.m. and then work until the end of dinner after all the other people had been served.

The cooks were not allowed to really sleep at all, but instead catch a nap when they could and not get caught because they could still get fired if they were found sleeping on the job.

However, later on the cooks were finally given mattresses or cots. The only problem was that they had to sleep in the "Possum's belly" which was the cook's floor. After all the people were served, they moved the tables and laid out their cots/mattresses on the floor.

Although there were a lot of bad things that affected

blacks, there were also a few benefits. For example, different educations were available to the children of the railroad men. And the living conditions for the families of the railroad workers had a better quality of life than other families who weren't affiliated with the railroads.

Another speaker that accompanied Dr. Bradford was Mr. Pete Algee who was a retired railroad engineer.

His inspirational speech told of how he started on the bottom of the chain and worked his way up in the railroad system until he finally found the position he wanted and finally retired.

The speeches given by both Dr. Bradford and Mr. Algee both encouraged thinking about railroads during the Civil Rights Movement.

Humble hero recalls SEC basketball experience

Marquita Douglas
News Editor

Perry Wallace doesn't consider himself a hero, but he is.

Wallace, the first black person to play varsity basketball in the SEC, came to share his heroic feats with UTM Thursday in Watkins Auditorium.

As a little boy in segregated Nashville, all Wallace saw was black and white. Where Wallace and his family lived and attended school was an all black area.

Perry shared with the audience that he could see Vanderbilt University on any random day, but he never phantom that he would one day attend classes there, let alone wear the jersey of the Commodores.

Vanderbilt, like most schools in the surrounding area in 1966 was a majority white school.

However, Coach Roy Skinner wanting to blur the lines between races in the SEC conference took a chance on Perry Wallace.

At the time Wallace was being recruited by more than eighty colleges, but he admits something stuck out about Vanderbilt and Coach Skinner. When asked why he ultimately decided on Vanderbilt basketball, Wallace gave a simple, but meaningful answer.

"When Coach Skinner entered my home he called my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace, which no other recruiting team had done," said Wallace.

Graduating from high school as a straight-A student and valedictorian of his class, Wallace arrived on Vanderbilt's campus at the age of 18.

The transition was extremely difficult for Wallace.

When Perry Wallace arrived on Vandy's campus that day, there was no mob or welcoming committee, but the university had received petitions from many alumni and others who were not so fond of seeing an African American player touching the court. He even revealed that at the time he



Pacer Photo/ University Relations

Perry Wallace is the first black man to desegregate the SEC conference basketball. came to discuss his transition.

didn't know it, but his family had been receiving many threatening letters in the mail from those that opposed the desegregation on Vanderbilt's basketball team.

"People already had their stereotypes of me," said Perry. "You had some that were very

fine people, some that hated me, and some that pretended I wasn't there, and just ignored me. Then there were the few other people who were just nasty towards me."

With every new game came a new challenge for Wallace. Wallace was threatened with

beatings, lynching, and even death from those in the crowd.

"The cheerleaders would even lead the crowd in derogatory cheers," said Wallace. "They say people treat you three kinds of ways. They treat you well, they treat you badly, or they do not treat you at all. The last two made up three quarters of my treatment."

Wallace recalled that he couldn't believe some of the treatment he got during his run with Vandy's basketball team. However, he kept going and rolling with the punches.

"I had some who did everything they could to avoid me and not deal with me. Some called me a lot of ugly words," said Wallace. "Some found it as a joke to wear KKK masks down the hall."

On the court, fans and opponents did everything they could to put fear in Wallace, with some going as far as throwing things from the stands onto the court at Wallace.

"I had to make sure I didn't succumb to fear. The thing was nobody had ever met me and said well you know I've met Wallace, watched how

he did things, heard his ideas, and I really don't like that guy. Instead they said we don't know you, and we hate you."

Wallace felt as if he was a victim of pre-judgment.

"Those people had no idea how much I cared about them, and how much of what I did had to do with not only improving the opportunities of blacks, but them as well."

All Wallace wanted to do was succeed on and off the court.

Succeed is exactly what Wallace did.

Wallace was the second team All-SEC his senior year, and still holds the No. 2 spot as the school's leading rebounder. He finished his basketball career with 1,010 points and 894 rebounds.

Wallace graduated in 1970 with a degree in engineering.

Wallace's role in desegregating the SEC can not be overlooked. In the 1970-71 basketball season, other SEC schools, such as Alabama, Kentucky, Georgia, and Florida opened their doors to other blacks and integrated their teams as well.

"Becoming a hero was the last thing I had any intentions of doing," said Wallace.

Peace rally promotes equality, brings students together

Elliott Eddings
Pacer Writer

UTM's annual Civil Rights Conference geared up last week as speakers from many diverse backgrounds spoke about issues related to civil rights issues, both past and present, affecting students and the general population.

As a part of the annual conference, a Peace and Justice Rally was held at noon, Wed. Feb. 23. The rally attracted approximately 50 students of many backgrounds, and guest speakers gave insight into race and gender issues.

Many of those participating in the event also held signs

demanding equal pay and better housing conditions for those disadvantaged by current gender and racial inequalities.

The event was kicked off with music from Jimi Hendrix and Bob Dylan, harkening back to the origins of the civil rights movement, before the speakers arrived.

Key issues raised by the speakers included calling upon students to become more involved in their education.

Involvement was an issue touched upon by many of the speakers, which included current UTM students as well as other guest speakers.

In a speech given by Noah Stewart, a Senior Business and

Finance Marketing student, students were encouraged to "create the world you want." Stewart also stressed the importance of education as a tool to creating the world you want.

Other speakers at the event, such as Brooklyn Gilbert, emphasized the importance of students exercising their freedom by getting involved with the civil rights movement to create a better future.

The rally was rounded out by students sharing their own personal poems, which reflected their hopes and wishes for a more equal future for people of all backgrounds.

The Peace and Justice Rally

also took time to remember the 50th anniversary of UTM's decision to desegregate and allow students of all racial backgrounds to attend classes.

In addition to the Peace and Justice Rally, UTM's annual Civil Rights Conference also included many other events throughout last week, such as a slideshow of Native American history and issues, a Black History Month Quiz Bowl sponsored by the National Association of Black Journalists and a discussion of White Southerner's involvement in the Civil Rights Movement.

The keynote speaker for this year's conference was Bernice Johnson Reagon.



Pacer Photo/ Jeremy Jordan

Several students attended last Wednesday's peace rally while others took time to speak and commemorate the 50th anniversary of UTM's desegregation.

Corrections on 'Celebration'

The following corrections need to be made to the article titled "UTM educates campus and community through celebration," published in the Feb. 23 issue of *The Pacer*.

First, Jessie Lou Arnold Pryor is a woman, not a man, so all referential pronouns to Pryor should have been "she" or "her" instead of "he" or "his."

Secondly, the Rev. Harold Connor was the first African-

American administrator at UTM. Connor was incorrectly listed in the story as the first African-American SGA president at UTM. That position, however, was held by Reggie Williams.

Finally, Dr. Jesse Cannon Jr. was not the first African-American male to graduate from UTM. However, he was the first African-American male to continue on from

UTM to medical school. Cannon, the third president of the campus Black Student Association, will appear at UTM on March 8.

The Pacer staff works diligently to ensure that all stories are accurate, and is happy to print corrections or clarify information that may not have been clear to our readers. To report a problem, please e-mail thepacer@ut.utm.edu.

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CAMPUS MAP

POLICE REPORT

1 2-18-11 at 8:51 a.m. - Library - Report of a subject who had fainted. Officers and EMS responded and treated the subject at the scene. The subject refused transport.	6 Fire Call-2-19-11 at 2:48 p.m. - UV Phase II - Report the smoke alarm was sounding. Officers responded and determined it to be caused by burned food. MFD notified.
2 2-18-11 at 10:15 p.m. - Lot 2 (Tennis Courts/Pond) - Report of a hit-and-run accident involving two vehicles. Investigation continues.	7 2-19-11-3:23 p.m. - Cooper - Report of a subject who had cut their hand on a broken dish. The subject was transported to the hospital.
3 2-18-11 at 11:55 p.m. - Browning - Report of a subject who had been injured while playing football. The subject was transported to the hospital by a friend.	8 2-22-11 at 10 a.m. - UC - A student was arrested for simple assault. (General Sessions Court)
4 2-19-11 at 2:15 a.m. - Off Campus South - Subject issued a misdemeanor citation for violation of the drinking age law. (General Sessions Court)	9 2-22-11 at 9:55 p.m. - Browning - Report of a subject being harassed by other residents. All parties were contacted and advised to have no further contact with each other.
5 2-19-11 at 2:40 a.m. - Lot 7 (Ellington) - Subject issued a misdemeanor citation for violation of the drinking age law. (General Sessions Court)	10 2-23-11 at 3:56 p.m. - Cooper - Report of a subject who had fallen down the stairs. Officers and EMS responded and transported the subject to the hospital.

Crime Prevention Tips from Public Safety

- Familiarize yourself with the layout of the campus.
- Carry your cell phone and have it readily available.
- Plan the safest route to where you are going; choose well-lit busy pathways.
- Avoid shortcuts between buildings or off busy pathways.
- If possible, travel in groups.
- Know where the emergency call boxes are located and how to use them.
- Stay alert to your surroundings and recognize potential threats as soon as possible.
- Tell a friend where you are going and how long it should take you to get there, call them when you arrive and reverse the process when you return.
- If a motorist stops and asks directions, keep your distance from the car.
- Trust your instincts; if something makes you feel nervous, remove yourself from the area immediately.

Take note!

of upcoming events on campus

Percussion Recitals

Two junior percussion recitals will be held Sunday, March 6, from 3 to 4 p.m. and 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in 112 UC, the Percussion Room. For more information, contact Dr. Julie Hill at jhill@utm.edu, Dr. Elaine Harris at elaineh@utm.edu or Sherry Adams at sadams@utm.edu. The event is open to the public and admission is free.

909 Comedy Series

The 909 Comedy Series will be held Thursday, March 3, from 9:09 p.m. to 10:09 p.m. in the Watkins Auditorium in the UC. For more information, e-mail www.sac@utm.edu. The event is open to the public and free of admission.

Pacer Graphics/Bruce Harbin & Jen DeYeso

GROUP

From Cover



Timothy Brady, creator of The Obion County Future Committee, believes that standing up and speaking out about needs and wants for Union City is the best way to help the area grow and prosper. (Provided Photo)

like fruit farms, wine vineyards and wineries. All this agribusiness could become a source for agricultural tourism as well. There's also the wildlife aspects of the area, from hunting and fishing to bird watching and nature photography, which could add to the tourism destinations and dollars," he said.

He also says that people in the area should use the Internet as a tool to conduct business for themselves, something he and his wife have done with their company, Write Up The Road Publishing & Media.

"All of our business is conducted over the Internet

with over 95 percent of our revenue coming from outside of the state of Tennessee. If we've successfully accomplished this, others in the area should be able to do the same."

But Brady points back to the OCFC and the young minds he hopes will empower it.

"The Obion County Future Committee is not about my ideas. It's more about what will it take to keep the 20- to 40-year-olds in the area. What kind of jobs, what types of activities, housing, transportation, entertainment, schools, etc."

The OCFC met this past Saturday to begin discussions about the actions that need to be taken in order

to keep Obion County and the surrounding area growing and prospering.

During the meeting, they established nine major concentrations: industry, entertainment, communications, agriculture, transportation, housing, small business development, aesthetics and education. With those areas of concentration in mind, Brady and the other members hope that their next meeting will draw even more people and ideas to their cause.

The OCFC has a problem-solving session scheduled for Saturday, April 9, at the Obion County Public Library and will have another meeting before then at a currently unscheduled date and time. Anyone may request to join the Facebook group.

"Don't sit back and let the local and state leaders try to guess what you're looking for - stand up and speak out so your ideas, wants and needs are heard. Then get actively involved in bringing your ideas and solutions to reality. This area needs your talent, your drive - it needs the power of the many to succeed. Don't be a spectator; be a part of the future, your future, our future," Brady said.

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Life

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UTM Percussion Ensemble enlightens and informs audience

'Roots and Rhythm' takes listeners on world tour of beats and sounds

Trevor Smith
Co-Life Editor

The UTM Percussion Ensemble's "Roots and Rhythm" performance was included this year in the university's annual Civil Rights Conference for the first time, and, through Dr. Julie Hill's lecture and the music that was played, it certainly felt like it belonged there.

"It is something we do every year, but this is the first time it has been a part of the Civil Rights Conference. We have just made it a part of Black History Month in the past," Hill said.

Hill and the Percussion Ensemble played through eight selections, each featuring different styles of drumming from five different stops around the globe: Africa, Cuba, Trinidad, Brazil and the United States.

The Ensemble used a steel band orchestra to play through the different beats and rhythms, which Hill helped the audience become familiar with by equating them to other more common instruments.

"I try to relate unusual instrument groups to groups most of the audience is already

comfortable with so the terms don't seem so foreign. In our case, a steel band orchestra can be likened to a concert band, orchestra, or even a choir.

The lead pans are like the flutes, violins, or sopranos; the second pans are like the saxophones, violas, or altos; cello pans are the trombones, cellos, and tenors; and finally bass pans are like the tubas, double bass, or baritone/bass of each of the afore mentioned ensembles," she said.

After playing music from different parts of the world, the performers brought it back home with the Jackson Five's "I Want You Back" which was arranged for the steel band orchestra by the Ensemble's own Will Kwasigroh, a first year percussion major from Dyer County High School.

Then the audience was treated to a surprise when they were asked to take part in the performance. The students in the ensemble passed out empty plastic bottles and showed audience members how to properly keep time with them as they played their last song.

The Percussion Ensemble will put the money raised from the performance toward their travel study in Salvador

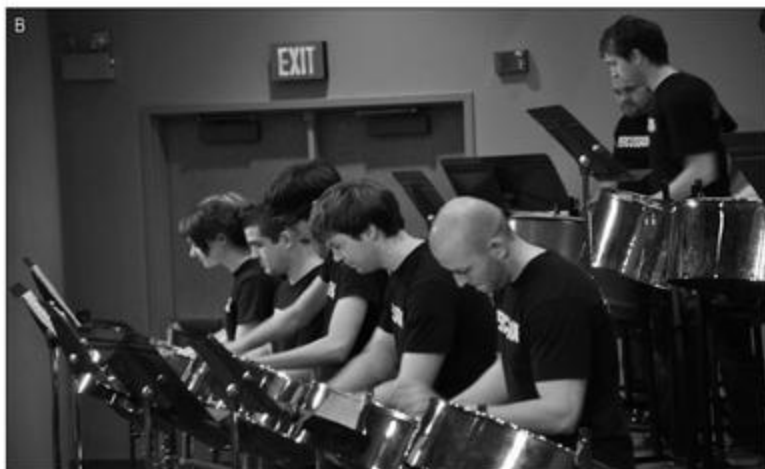
da Bahia, Brazil. Along with taking percussion lessons there, they will teach lessons and take lessons in Capoeira, which is a martial art disguised as a dance once practiced by slaves to stay fit. They will also do a joint performance with percussion students from the Universidade Federal da Bahia.

Hill said she believes that the study in Brazil will greatly benefit the students in her studio.

"I think that by learning the music from other cultures, we will also be open to learning other aspects of those cultures as well. Loving rhythm and enjoying music sort of provides an open door and a comfort zone that breaks down barriers of language, race, religion, and more.

"If we can appreciate music that sounds different than our own, and even enjoy it, than perhaps we could be open to diversity found elsewhere.

"Our world needs more tolerant young people that will look first to kindness and understanding of differences rather than violence or even criticism and ignorance. We all know that education is the key and I think music education is a great place to start," Hill said.



(A) The audience plays along during the performance after they were given plastic bottles and instructions on how to keep time with the performers on stage. (B) Several students from the ensemble play lead pan drums during the performance. (C) Dr. Julie Hill lectures the audience on the various places that the UTM Percussion Ensemble performed music from. (Pacer Photos/Trevor Smith)

'Hall Pass' has plenty of laughs ... and plenty of gaffes

Regina Emery
Co-Life Editor

A hall pass is supposed to get you from Point A to Point B without getting into trouble. Unfortunately, the plot of the latest Farrelly brothers' film went nowhere. If anything, it goes too far in too many directions.

"Hall Pass" opened last week, starring Owen Wilson (Rick) and Jason Sudeikis (Fred) as middle-aged men bored with their marriages and romanticizing about their college glory days. They fit the cinematic hyper-sexed and under-evolved male role to a buffalo wing sauce-covered tee.

Their wives Maggie and Grace (played by the adorable Jenna Fischer and Christina Applegate, respectively) agree in desperation to allow their man-child husbands a hall pass—one week away from marriage. While the women spend the week away at Cape Cod, the men will have free reign to do whatever they please, even to cheat.

By eliminating the taboo, they hope, they will eliminate

the temptation.

If you ask me, it's a plausible scenario that occurs more frequently in relationships than the norm would expect. And for addressing such a real-life tricky topic, I commend the Farrelly brothers.

But that's about all the praise I have to give for the cinematic quality of the film. What starts out as a complete believable situation comedy quickly manifests into a series of WTF moments.

My biggest complaint is the acting. Not that Wilson reveres himself as a serious dramatic actor, but his portrayal of a father is abhorrently pathetic. It'd be far less awkward watching Danny Devito thumb through a scrapbook

with his kids than it is to watch the now-chubby Wilson take a stab at the daddy role (Uh, couldn't you re-channel Marley and Me?).

childless couple has managed to stay together thus far.

I do have to give props however to the SNL star for being the comedic savior of

While the boys fail at trying (honestly, who seeks women on a golf course?), the girls find themselves the center of some male attention and begin to embrace the hall pass for themselves.

In fact, the scene between Maggie and the baseball coach provides the only moment of reason in the film.

Don't get me wrong—you're going to laugh. True, most of the one-liners were revealed in the trailer.

But the tried and true crude humor runs around—most notably is a steam room scene complete with full frontal male nudity.

Just to be fair, the film also provides some female frontal nudity as well, namely thanks to the blessed Nicky Whelan who plays the sweet coffee shop girl who for some

inexplicable reason actually likes Rick.

And true to the potty humor calling card, there are feces to be found in some gloriously gross scenes (yes, plural).

Things become absurdly far-fetched towards the film's comedic climax (nevertheless worthy of a few laughs) before winding down to an awkwardly happy ending.

And by awkward I mean, lacking a moral resolution. Perhaps it's just my moral Tom-tom, but I felt a little confused with how easily actions were forgiven.

There is a way to combine the crude and the compassion (the 40 Year Old Virgin, Knocked Up) but the Farrelly brothers' fall short. Not that penises and poop are what great comedies are made of, but they should have stuck to what they know instead of failing with this film.

Still, it's a comedy and should be critiqued as such. Did it annoy me with inconsistencies and far-fetched fallacies? Yes. But did it also make me laugh? Again, yes.

Mission accomplished.



Jason Sudeikis (left) and Owen Wilson star as hypersexed man-children whose wives give them a week off from marriage in the latest Farrelly brothers' comedy "Hall Pass."

Further, the chemistry between Applegate and Sudeikis was as feign as Ricky Martin's heterosexuality. Given her obvious hotness and their severe lack of love, you have to wonder how the

film. Sure, you despise Fred's cockiness but at least you don't feel sorry for him like you do Rick and his incessant I-wanna-be-bad-but-I'm-really-a-good-guy crap.

10 things

*10 steps in the
evolution of the written word*

*Edited by Jen DeYeso, Troy Duncan &
Bruce Harbin*



1

Cave drawings



2

Stone tablets



3

Papyrus



4

Quill & scroll



5

Gutenberg's
Printing Press

6

Newspapers



7

Typewriter



8

Telegram



9

Computer
Processing

10

Texting

Pacer Graphics/Jen DeYeso

entertainmentnext



127 Hours

R 94 min.

- Adventure/Drama/Thriller
- Starring James Franco
- Coming to DVD/Blu Ray on March 1st



Take Me Home Tonight

R 114 min.

- Comedy/Drama
- Starring Topher Grace & Anna Faris
- Coming to theaters March 4th



Rango

PG 107 min.

- Animation/Action/Adventure
- Starring Johnny Depp & Isla Fisher
- Coming to theaters March 4th

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Sports

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Skyhawk women step up on senior day; earn No. 2 seed in OVC tourney

Sports Information

Freshman Jasmine Newsome scored 33 points, made four 3-pointers and grabbed eight rebounds to lead the UTM women's basketball team to an 88-69 victory over visiting Morehead State Sat. Feb. 26 in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

With the victory, the Skyhawks clinched the No. 2 seed in next week's OVC Tournament at Historic Municipal Auditorium in Nashville. The Skyhawks also wrapped up their 2011 regular season with their 16th consecutive home victory since Jan. 30, 2010.

The Skyhawks will play at 2 p.m., Friday, March 4 in the semifinals. The Skyhawks could play one of three teams, Jacksonville State, Tennessee State or Morehead State.

"We could play them (Morehead State) next week and it will really count," UTM head coach Kevin McMillan said.

If the Skyhawks do meet Morehead State next week in the tournament semifinals they will have to pick up the intensity earlier than they did this afternoon in the Elam Center.

Morehead State jumped out front 24-16 when senior Chynna Bozeman hit a jumper with 11:46 to play in the first half. Bozeman scored 16-first half points.

"Our intensity wasn't there early in the first half,"



(Media Credit/Trevor Ruzsowski)



(Media Credit/Trevor Ruzsowski)

McMillan said. "Late in the first half we made a push."

The Skyhawks went on a 6-2

Skyhawks opened the second half with a 17-3 run and took an 11-point lead with 13:50 to

Jasmine Newsome made one of her four 3-pointers with 11:02 to play.

"Newsome was phenomenal in the second half. Butler had a good game and Weatherly, did whatever we needed her to do."

Kevin McMillan

HEAD COACH WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

run in the final 2:27 of the first half and went to the locker room trailing 39-36. The

play in the game.

The Skyhawks stretched the lead to 15 points when

"I thought the key for us was Perica Glenn," McMillan said. Glenn scored 11 points and

had eight rebounds.

Freshman Heather Butler netted 17 points, while freshman Jaclissa Haislip tossed in eight points and led the Skyhawks with 11 rebounds.

Newsome scored 23 of her 33 points in the second half. In all the Skyhawks managed to get 72 of their 88 points from five freshmen.

It was only appropriate on senior night that the Skyhawks' lone senior, Alecia Weatherly, make a contribution. Weatherly tossed in 13 points and grabbed four rebounds.

"Newsome was phenomenal in the second half," McMillan said. "Butler had a good game, and Weatherly, did whatever we needed her to do."

Bozeman finished the game with 32 points, grabbed seven rebounds and dished out nine rebounds.

"Chynna Bozeman is phenomenal," UTM head coach Kevin McMillan said. "She can carry any team on her back."

The Skyhawks finished the regular season with a 19-10 overall record and a 14-4 OVC worksheet. Morehead State wraps up the season with a 20-9 record and a 13-5 in the OVC.

Morehead State will enter the tournament as the No. 3 seed, and play the winner of the Jacksonville State and Tennessee State game at 2 p.m., on Thursday, March 3.

Newsome named OVC freshman/ player of week

Sports Information

Jasmine Newsome, the 5-7 point guard on The UTM women's basketball team, has been named the adidas OVC Player and Freshman of the Week for her efforts this past week against Eastern Kentucky and Morehead State.

Newsome averaged 26 points and 7.5 rebounds in the two Skyhawk victories. She scored 19 points against Eastern Kentucky and followed that up with 33 points versus Morehead State. The Millington native shot 52.9 percent from the field and 85.7 percent from beyond the arc.

Newsome led UTM to an 88-69 victory over Morehead State which secured the No. 2 seed for the Skyhawks in this week's OVC Tournament at historic Municipal Auditorium in Nashville. The Skyhawks will play at 2 p.m., Friday, March 4 in the semifinals.

A UTM player has been named the OVC Freshman of the Week 13 times this season. Newsome and Heather Butler have won the honor five times each, while Beth Hawn was named the OVC's first Freshman of the Week this season.

Newsome and Butler are the only two freshmen in program history to win the OVC Player and Freshman of the Week awards on the same week. Butler was named the league's Player and Freshman of the Week on Dec. 27, 2010.

Liabo named OVC freshman of week

Sports Information

Mike Liabo, a 6-6 guard on The UTM men's basketball team, has been named as the adidas OVC Freshman of the Week for his efforts against Eastern Kentucky and Morehead State last week.

This marks the eighth Freshman of the Week award for the Skyhawks this season, which is only the third time that one university has won that many in a single season since the OVC started giving out the award in the 1978-79 season. Liabo and teammate Troy King have each been honored three times, while Terence Smith brought home the award twice.

UTM's leading scorer in OVC play (12.2 points per game), Liabo set several new career-highs in UTM's split with Eastern Kentucky and Morehead State last week.

Against the Colonels on Thursday, he tied a career-best with 21 points, helping the Skyhawks erase a 16-point deficit and clinch a spot in the OVC Tournament. On Saturday against Morehead State, he poured in 14 points and set a new career-high with five assists (against zero turnovers). For the week, he made eight 3-pointers and shot an even 50 percent from beyond the arc.

Men fall short to Morehead State; Advance to OVC tourney

Sports Information

Senior forward Benzo Simmons' 18 points led four UTM double-figure scorers Feb. 26, but Morehead State charged out of the halftime break to shoot 56 percent in the second half for a 77-64 win on Senior Night at the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

Following the conclusion of all OVC games, the Skyhawks learned that they will take on Tennessee State as the No. 8 seed in the first round of the OVC Tournament on Wednesday, March 2 at 6 p.m. UTM ends the regular season with an 11-20 record and 6-12 state in league play.

Along with Simmons, freshmen Terence Smith (16 points), Mike Liabo (14) and Troy King (10) all cracked the double-digit scoring plateau tonight. Liabo also handed out a game-high five assists, setting a new career-high in that category as well.

Morehead State (22-9, 13-5) was paced by Kenneth Faried's 24 points and 18 rebounds, while Terrance Hill scored 15 and Sam Goodman added 12 points off the bench for the Eagles.

"We played hard enough to win, we just weren't always smart enough for the full 40 minutes," Skyhawk head

coach Jason James said. "I thought we shot the ball very well in the first half by taking good shots but in the second half we missed a lot of those same shots."

The night began with a tribute to UTM's four seniors - Reuben Clayton, Andres Irazabal, Daron Hood and Simmons. The four were all part of the program's first-ever OVC championship squad in 2008-09 and will set a new all-time Skyhawk record for most OVC Tournament game appearances in next week's tournament.

Morehead State scored the first six and nine of the first 11 points of the game before Liabo sank a triple to make the score 13-7 with 15:15 to play in the first half. The Eagles then put together a 7-0 run to go ahead by 13 on a Faried jumper but the Skyhawks clawed back.

A Smith layup with 6:04 to play in the half ignited a 12-0 run over a span of 3:58, capped off by a thunderous contested one-handed slam by Clayton that gave UTM its first lead of the game at 28-26.

The Eagles briefly grabbed a lead that was sandwiched between ties at 28-and-31-all before a pair of Simmons free throws with 29 seconds left ended the scoring on both sides. UTM held a 33-31

advantage heading into the break.

Liabo had a game-high 11 points in the first half to lead the Skyhawks, who made five of their 11 three-point attempts (46 percent). Faried amassed 10 points and nine rebounds in the first half to lead Morehead State.

Consecutive inside buckets by Faried opened the second half before a layup from Simmons squared things up at 35-35. One more tie followed in the first four minutes of the half before Hill scored four straight points to put the Eagles ahead 41-37.

The teams then swapped points for most of the next five minutes, as the Skyhawks did not trail by more than five points at any time in that stretch. Two more free throws from Simmons sliced UTM's deficit to two points with 9:39 to play, but turnovers in each of the next four possessions allowed Morehead State to unravel a 12-2 run and go ahead 60-48.

A layup by Faried with 5:05 left gave the Eagles their biggest lead of the night (65-50), but UTM didn't go down lightly. The Skyhawks scored 11 of the game's next 15 points to pull within eight when Liabo made a trey at the 2:21 mark.

However, Morehead State



(Media Credit/Trevor Ruzsowski)

closed out the game by making a layup and all six of its free throw attempts inside two minutes left to play.

The Skyhawks will now focus on their seventh all-time OVC Tournament appearance, as they take on in-state rival Tennessee State at Municipal Auditorium in Nashville. The Skyhawks lost both games against the Tigers this season, but both games were very competitive.

UTM had a chance to go ahead twice in the final seconds of a 67-64 loss at home on Jan. 8, while the Skyhawks held a four-point halftime advantage in their game at Tennessee State on Feb. 5 before falling 56-47. Clayton's 11.5 points per game average against the Tigers this season leads the Skyhawks, while Liabo (11.0 ppg) also averages double-figures against Tennessee State.

Golfers Childress, Martin discuss life at UTM, future

Sam Hinson
Pacer Writer

As the old saying goes, time flies when you're having fun.

Senior golfers Bailey Childress and Jon Martin will attest to that statement has never been more true.

What seems like yesterday for the two golfers, they started their college golf careers here at Martin just four short years ago and are getting ready to step foot out into the real world.

"I'm both nervous and excited, I can't believe that I am getting ready for graduation," Martin said.

Jon enjoyed a successful career at Martin competing in a lot of tournaments and even winning one at Paris Country Club.

"One thing competitive golf will teach you is how to work hard which I think will serve me well in what ever career I choose," Martin said.

Jon has studied finance over the past four years and hopes to enter into a field that will allow him to practice the skills he has acquired as finance major.

"Being a finance major isn't easy but I'm glad I did it and I really enjoyed the classes and the teachers that guided me along the way."

Bailey Childress has enjoyed similar success during his time here as well.

He was elected team captain his senior year and says that has really had an impact on him.

"Being the team captain teaches you how to lead, which I think is a great skill to have to be successful in the real world."

Bailey hopes to enter into the world of accounting after he attends graduate school starting next year.

"I know how difficult being an accounting major is during the first four years, I'm sure it doesn't get any easier during graduate school," Childress said.

Both golfers said they are really going to miss being a member of the golf team.

"I really enjoyed my time here playing golf under Coach Carpenter and getting to know all the guys on the golf team, they are a great group of guys," Childress said.

"I can't thank this university nor the golf team enough for being so good to me over the years and making me the man I am today," Martin said.